

THE ALMA RECORD

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF ALMA, MICHIGAN

COMMUNISM VS. CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

We hear and read so much these days about internationalism and world government, that we should do some very sound thinking for ourselves, as to what a communistic form of government would mean in this country. A comparison of the opportunities of a Communistic government and Constitutional government is worth while.

Under a constitutional government like that of the United States, where individual enterprise is given every opportunity and every encouragement, the advantages are in striking contrast with the discouragements of a communistic plan of government such as now exists in Russia. Americans take so much delight in recording the attainments of those who start out in life with no aid except their own individual ability and energy that one might almost reach the conclusion that there is little opportunity for the son of a wealthy family. The attainments of those who rise from modest surroundings are so widely heralded that there might almost be an impression that the young man of wealthy antecedents stands little show of making a success by his personal efforts.

The fact is, however, that under the assurance of equal opportunity which a constitutional government affords, where property rights are respected and protected, there is practically no limit to the success that may be attained by either the rich or the poor. In the last few years, two young men of well known families have attained national prominence entirely through their own ability and efforts, notwithstanding their families were possessed of unusual wealth. One of these young men is John Hays Hammond, Jr., who has invented many devices in connection with wireless control of seacraft. The other is Sherman M. Fairchild of New York, who has attained world wide distinction by inventions in aerial photography.

So far as gaining a livelihood is concerned probably neither of these young men needed to do any work whatever. They could have gone into some line of business where their invested capital would have brought them a sure and steady income without any personal exertion on their own part. They chose rather, a career that required the most exacting personal attention, and, as a result of their efforts, have contributed to the world's store of scientific knowledge and have benefited mankind for all time to come.

There would have been neither encouragement nor opportunity for either of these young men under a bolshevistic form of government. Having their money taken away from them would have hurt them least of all. They were using not their money but their brains. A communistic government, exercising the right to nationalize everything, would have undertaken to tell them in what occupation they should engage and probably would have set one of them tilling fields and the other bearing a rifle in a soviet army. If in their spare time under a soviet government they created inventions which would be of benefit to the world they would be denied the special rewards of their efforts, for the government would have confiscated their rights and their property. Under such a system there would be no inducement whatever to put forth the effort necessary to discover the methods by which new and more valuable use could be made of wireless transmission or of optical devices.

These illustrations serve to emphasize the truth that it is not only the men of property who gain advantage under a constitutional form of government but every individual who has a desire to work, to create, and to enjoy the rewards of his energy and ability.

NO COMPROMISE WITH DISHONOR

Time will undoubtedly bring to the Harding administration a world-wide approval of its course in declining to send representatives to Genoa or The Hague to attend a conference which would recognize the Soviet government of Russia. President Harding's decision was based upon fundamentally sound reasons, and, though certain European interests may be temporarily displeased, they will ultimately realize that the course pursued by the United States was best for the permanent welfare of Europe and the world.

To recognize the Soviet regime and extend it a loan of the desired billion dollars would not lead to a restoration of industry in Russia. The billion would be used directly or indirectly to maintain the military organization by which the Lenin government keeps itself in power. If the money should be directly employed in industry, other funds to a corresponding amount would be withdrawn from industry, to support the military organization. The whole bolshevik scheme of confiscation, euphoniously called "nationalization," is unsound and must ultimately fail. A loan to the Soviet government cannot afford even a temporary relief to the Russian people. Pouring American money into the vaults of an international thief would but encourage the thief to continue in his evil ways. It would afford him the means of supporting himself in his nefarious business.

Certain European nations would like to see the United States extend direct aid to Soviet Russia, for they would be the immediate beneficiaries of every dollar so spent. In the end, however, they will see the futility of such compromises with dishonor, and will commend the wisdom and courage which guided President Harding in refusing to temporize with Bolshevism.

The self conceited man is a genius in his own estimation who doesn't worry over what other people think.

Two can never live as cheaply as one, though many find it necessary to do so.

Millions of people talk about hell without knowing a darned thing about it.

The value of a family tree depends upon the quality of its branches.

Where Your Taxes Go

How Uncle Sam Spends Your Money in Conducting Your Business

By EDWARD G. LOWRY

Author "Washington Close-Ups," "Banks and Financial Systems," etc. Contributor Political and Economic Articles to Leading Periodicals and a Writer of Recognized Authority on the National Government's Business Methods.

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EASY COME, EASY GO

Back in 1912, when Mr. Taft was President, and when the gross expenditures of the government were about one-quarter of what they are now, he became exercised and concerned about the higgledy-piggledy, unscientific, disorderly, grab-bag methods by which your money was expended for public purposes. He said then what is equally true now, that the activities of the national government "are almost as varied as those of the entire business world. The operations of the government affect the interest of every person living within the jurisdiction of the United States. Its organization embraces stations and centers of work located in every city and in many local subdivisions of the country."

"This vast organization has never been studied in detail as one piece of administrative mechanism. Never have the foundations been laid for a thorough consideration of the relations of all its parts. No comprehensive effort has been made to list its multifarious activities or to group them in such a way as to present a clear picture of what the government is doing. Never has a complete description been given of the agencies through which these activities are performed."

"At no time has the attempt been made to study all of these activities and agencies with a view to the assignment of each activity to the agency best fitted for its performance, to the avoidance of duplication of plant and work, to the integration of all administrative agencies of the government, so far as may be practicable, into a unified organization for the most effective and economical dispatch of public business."

This extraordinary and indefensible situation, which exists today as fully and completely as it did when Mr. Taft portrayed it seven years ago, came about quite naturally and simply through our tolerance and slackness.

For years and years the government lived and grew and extended its activities on Santa Claus money. Its income came as easily as money in a letter. For years and years the national income was greater than the expenses. Every year there was a surplus.

The government was precisely in the position of the Rockefeller's and the Carnegies and the Rothschilds. Its problem was not how to get money enough to live on, but how to spend its income. It naturally got in the way of throwing some of it to the birds. It lived like a rentier man. You may remember that back in the time of the first Cleveland administration one of the problems of public discussion was: "What shall be done with the surplus?" Then there was a change of administration and Corporal Tanner was made commissioner of pensions. The whole country was amused and had a hearty laugh when he announced his policy: "God help the surplus!" Then was the halcyon days!

Mr. Gilbert, the present undersecretary of the treasury, in an address said:

"The estimates for the year 1920 show that over a billion dollars of expenditures were authorized by the last session of congress in addition to the amount shown in the usual compiled statements of appropriations. In fact, the practice has reached such proportions as to be almost a national scandal, and it was vigorously denounced in the President's last annual message."

"It has become the first principle of strategy on the part of people interested in appropriations for various special purposes to frame the matter so as to authorize the use of the public funds indirectly, or in indefinite terms, or by authorization for expenditure of unexpended balances, perhaps appropriated originally for other purposes, or by authorizations to divert government receipts before they ever reach the treasury. Efforts are made to find general words which do not speak in terms of appropriations and cannot be readily calculated."

"The last session of the present congress, for example, authorized additional expenditures out of balances of prior appropriations and from receipts to the amount of over \$500,000,000, including over \$400,000,000 for the shipping board. The present session of congress by similar procedure takes credit for refusing appropriations for the shipping board, but, at the same time, purposes to authorize the expenditure of receipts in amounts that may reach as high as \$200,000,000. By the indefinite appropriation for the railroad guaranty about \$50,000,000 was in effect appropriated without appearing in any of the state ments of appropriations."

You see how it goes.

First Weaving Machine 1733. Weaving has been practiced from the earliest times; the aid of machinery dates from 1733, when the fly shuttle was invented.

Handicap of Fear. The fear of many brings a snare. By halting in our duty and giving back in time of trial, our hands grow weaker, our ears grow dull, so that when we look at the way of the righteous, it seems as though it was not for us.

Fire Blight Shows In State Orchards

That Fire Blight, a disease of fruit trees capable of causing extensive damage among orchards, is developing rapidly in many sections of Michigan, is indicated by reports received at the Michigan Agricultural College. Fire Blight is particularly dangerous to young trees, and control measures must be adopted at once to prevent the spread of the disease and resultant loss.

"The Fire Blight is now in the twig blight stage, in which it can be readily controlled," says G. H. Coons, plant pathologist at M. A. C. "The blighted twigs are usually fairly few on the trees and they can be cut out readily. The work should be done at once before the blight causes new infections and spreads to the main limbs."

"Fire Blight is a disease more dangerous to young, rapidly growing trees. Old trees making slow growth suffer little, and commonly need little attention. With trees in full vigor, blight promises to be serious unless growth of the trees is stopped by drought."

"Prompt removal and burning of all diseased twigs, making the cuts at least a foot below the blighted portion, will remove the source of infection. Weekly inspections of trees should be made to catch other infections and keep the trees clear. Full directions for control can be obtained from the M. A. C. Department of Botany, East Lansing, Michigan."

Fire Blight is most common on apples and pears. It is sometimes found on plums, and has frequently been reported in this state as a serious disease of quince and mountain ash.

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

Next Wednesday evening's program to be given by the business men of the city for the benefit of their patrons in Alma and the surrounding country will consist of flower, bird, Spanish, interpretive and character dancing, and promises to be a very unusual program, full of interest from start to finish.

The opening part of the program will be in the form of flowers and birds as they come to life as the dancing spirits. The first number will be a dance called the Awakening of Spring. Other dances will be "Blue Birds," "Lillies," etc.

The second part of the program will bring in novelty and character dances, "The Shepherd Boy," "French Bell," "The Flower Vendor," and others.

Last evening a large audience welcomed Duke Druland and Miss Erica Ransome, who furnished the evening's entertainment on the large platform on Superior street. Duke Druland, "The Dancing Demon," studied under the pastmaster of the art, George Primrose. Miss Erica Ransome danced her latest butterfly dances with grace and charm, which appealed strongly to the audience.

Record Directory FOR READY REFERENCE

President and Congress
 President, Warren G. Harding, Ohio, Salary \$75,000, with allowances for traveling expenses up to \$25,000 extra, and \$150,000 more for clerk hire and White House expenses—\$260,000 in all. (Subject to change)
 Vice-President, Calvin Coolidge, Mass., salary \$15,000. President pro tem of senate, Albert B. Cummins, Iowa.
 Speaker of House, Frederick H. Gillett of Mass.; salary \$12,000. The 94 Senators and 435 Representatives of 67th congress receive \$7,500 salary each, with mileage extra at 20 cents a mile each way, each session, figured on distance between their homes and Washington; also \$125 extra for stationery, newspapers, etc. Each is also allowed \$3,400 a year for clerk hire. Ratio of representation, one member to each 211,817 population.
 Party Division in 67th Congress: House 301 Rep., 133 Dem., 1 Soc. Senate 69 Rep., 37 Dem.
 U. S. Senators—Chas. E. Townsend, Truman H. Newberry.
 Representative in Congress—Joseph W. Fordney.

The Cabinet
 Arranged in order of presidential succession:
 Sec'y. State, Charles E. Hughes, N. Y.; Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, Pa.; War, John W. Weeks, Mass.; Atty.-Gen., Harry D. Baughman, Ohio; Postmaster-Gen., Will H. Hays, Ind.; Sec'y. Navy, Edwin Denby, Mich.; Interior, Albert B. Fall, N. Mex.; Agriculture, Henry C. Wallace, Iowa; Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover, Calif.; Labor, James J. Davis, Pa. Salary of each \$12,000.

The Supreme Court
 Chief Justice, William Howard Taft, salary \$17,000. Associate Justices, salary, \$14,500 each: Jos. McKenna, Calif. (Rep.); Oliver W. Holmes, Mass. (Rep.); Wm. B. Duff, Ohio (Rep.); Willis VanDevanter, Wyo. (Rep.); Mahlon Pitney, N. J. (Rep.); James McReynolds, Tenn. (Dem.); Louis D. Brandeis, Mass. (Dem.); John H. Clarke, Ohio (Dem.)

Michigan Government
 Governor, Alex. J. Groves, salary, \$5,000; Lieut. Gov., Thomas Reed, salary, \$500.00; Secretary of State, Charles J. Deland, salary, \$2500.00; State Treas., Frank E. Gorman, salary, \$2500.00; Auditor Gen., Oranuel B. Fuller, salary, \$2500.00; Attorney Gen., Martin Wiley, salary \$5000.00; Supt. of Public Instruction, Thomas E. Johnson, salary, \$4000.00; State Highway Com., Frank C. Rogers, salary \$7500.00; Senator of District, Aaron, salary \$800.00; Representative of District, David G. Locke, salary \$800.00; Supreme Court Judges, salary \$7000.00; Joseph B. Moore, Joseph H. Stone, Howard Wright, Grant Fellows, John W. Stone, Geo. M. Clark, John E. Bird, Nelson Sharp.

County Officers
 Circuit Judge, Edward J. Molnet, salary \$3500.00; Judge of Probate, James G. Kress, salary, \$2400.00; Sheriff, A. T. Wilbert, salary, fee; Clerk, Bernie Case, salary, \$1500; Treas., Sidney Evers, salary, \$1500; Pros. Atty., Romaine Clark, salary, \$2500; Registrar of Deeds, Chas. Heister, salary, fee; School Com., Howard Potter, salary, \$1000; Circuit Court Com., Archie McCall, Wm. A. Bahke, fees; Drain Com., Eva Laycock, salary \$1500; Coroner, W. K. Ludwig, Dr. Hall, fees.

City Government
 Mayor, Chas. E. Murphy, salary, \$500.00; City Commissioners, John C. Chick, Floyd Glass, A. J. Archer, Philip Cresser, salary, \$200.00; City Manager, Wm. E. Reynolds, salary \$500.00; City Clerk, Francis C. Hayward, salary \$3000.00; City Treasurer, D. W. Adams, salary, \$1800.00; City Attorney, Wm. A. Bahke, salary, \$1200.00; Health Officer, Dr. John N. Day, salary, \$1500.00; Chief of Police, James R. Campbell, salary \$1700.00; Supervisors, 1st ward, Jesse E. Fuller, 2nd ward, Nicholas E. Saad, 3rd ward, Albert P. Cook, 4th ward, Jacob D. Helman, salary, \$3.00 per day on actual time.

USE THE OLD S.D. MARSHALL'S CATARRH Snuff
 30¢ at all Druggists, or sent prepaid by WILLIAMS MFG. CO., CLEVELAND, O.
 Winslow Bros. Drug Store

Citizens' Mutual Auto Insurance Co. Howell, Michigan

Statement for Five Months Period ending May 31, 1922:

CLAIMS AND LOSSES PAID:
 218 Fire and Theft \$ 36,508.05
 287 Property Damage and Personal Injury 39,741.82
 663 Collision 39,109.18
 1,168 \$115,359.05

ASSETS, MAY 31, 1922:

Cash in Banks \$127,413.94
 Cash in Office 6,046.50
 Capital 27,727.44
 Furniture and Equipment 16,700.22
 Salvage Dept. 7,625.00
 Accts. Receivable 5,235.90
 Total \$190,749.00

\$47,430.87 Added to Surplus

Total Claims and Losses Paid to Date:
 8,812, amounting to \$1,081,909.83

Auto Insurance at Cost Plus Safety

F. E. French, Local Agent, Alma, Mich.

ALMA SAT. JUNE 24

JOHN ROBINSON'S CIRCUS

THE WONDER 97TH SEASONS SHOW ANNUAL GREATEST OF THE TOUR GRANDDEST UNIVERSE SUPER CIRCUS

HERDS of ELEPHANTS 1005 PEOPLE
 IDROVE of CAMELS 500 HORSES

Grand Street Parade at 10 a. m.

PERFORMANCE STARTS 2 and 8 p. m.

Tickets on Sale Circus Day Murphy's Drug Store—Same Price as on Grounds.

Special Prices —ON— Refrigerators

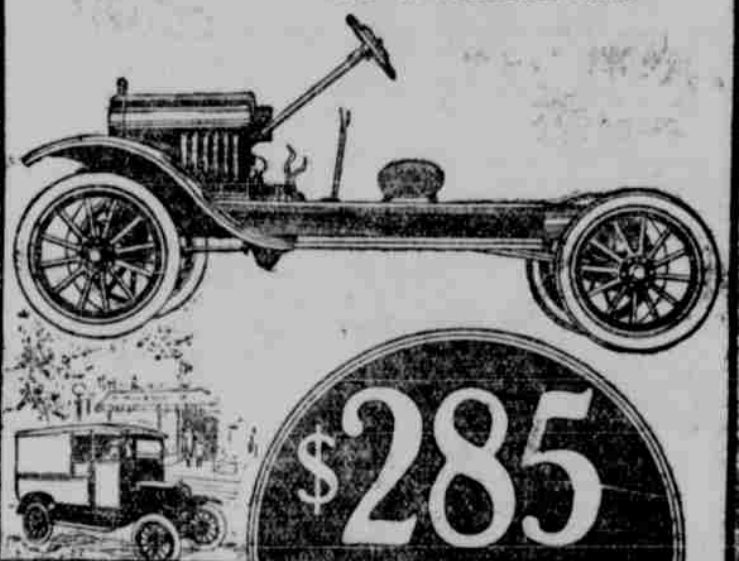
What is more appropriate than a Traveling Bag as a Graduation gift?

CRANDELL & SCOTT

Furniture

Undertaking

Ford THE UNIVERSAL CAR



Cut Your Delivery Costs

And remember—the lowest first cost, the lowest upkeep and the highest resale value of any motor car ever built.

F.O.B. Detroit

Expand your sales zone—reach more customers. Figured from every conceivable standpoint a Ford Chassis, and a body to suit your needs will not only speed up and substantially lower the cost of your light delivery and hauling, but it will establish for your business an invaluable reputation for promptness and efficiency. Buy now. Terms if desired.

Niles Motor Sales Co.

G. V. NILES, Manager
 ALMA, MICH.